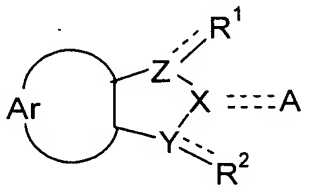
Listing of Claims:

Please delete the claims in the specification and replace them with the following new claims.

Claims 1-18 cancelled.

19. (NEW) A medicament containing a compound according to the general formula



(I)

wherein the dotted lines denote a single bond which is optionally present, with 1 dotted line and 1 full line or 2 dotted lines denoting a double bond; wherein, in case no double bond is present and a free valence exists, this valence is occupied by H; and wherein the symbols have the following meanings:

R^1 and R^2 are independently from each other selected from the group consisting of:
H; OH; (=O); halogens; pseudohalogens; with at least one of R^1, R^2 being (=O);

Ar denotes an unsubstituted mononuclear aryl group having 6 or 7 members, which aryl group is annulated to the neighbouring 5-membered cycle, and which may carry 1 or 2 heteroatoms from the group N, O and S in its cycle;

Y, Z denote independently from each other a nitrogen atom or a methylene group;

X is a nitrogen atom or a methylene group;

A is an at least monosubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl having a H-atom in position α to X, which alkyl can carry in its chain one or more non-adjacent heteroatoms from the group nitrogen and oxygen, wherein the at least one substituent is selected from the group consisting of: $C(O)R^{17}$, $C(O)OR^{18}$, and substituted and non-substituted aryl and substituted and non-substituted heteroaryl which aryl and heteroaryl, if substituted, carry at least one substituent from the group consisting of C_1-C_3-alkyl, C_1-C_3-alkoxy, halogens, pseudohalogens, and CF_3;

R^{17} is selected from H and unsubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl;

R^{18} has the same meaning as R^{17};

aryl is phenyl, naphth-1-yl or naphth-2-yl;

heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of indolyl, furyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazinyl, pyridyl and pyrimidinyl, or a pharmaceutically effective salt thereof.

20. (NEW) The medicament according to claim 19, wherein the symbols in formula (I) have the following meanings:

R^1 and R^2 are independently from each other selected from the group consisting of: H; (=O); with at least one of R^1, R^2 being (=O), preferably both being (=O);

Ar denotes an unsubstituted mononuclear aryl group having 6 or 7 members, which aryl group is annulated to the neighbouring 5-membered cycle, and which may carry 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms in its cycle;

Y, Z denote independently from each other a nitrogen atom or a methylene group, preferably Y, Z are both methylene;

X is a nitrogen atom or a methylene group, preferably X is a nitrogen atom;

A is an at least bisubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl having a H-atom in position α to X, wherein the at least two substituents are selected from the group consisting of: $C(O)OR^{18}$, and substituted and non-substituted aryl and substituted and non-substituted heteroaryl which aryl and heteroaryl, if substituted, carry at least one substituent from the group consisting of C_1-C_3-alkyl, C_1-C_3-alkoxy, halogens, pseudohalogens, and CF_3;

R^{18} is selected from H and unsubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl;

aryl is phenyl, naphth-1-yl or naphth-2-yl;

heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of indolyl, furyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazinyl, pyridyl and pyrimidinyl, or a pharmaceutically effective salt thereof.

21. (NEW) The medicament according to claim 20, wherein the symbols in formula (I) have the following meanings:

R^1 and R^2 are both (=O);

Ar denotes an unsubstituted mononuclear aryl group having 6 or 7 members, which aryl group is annulated to the neighbouring 5-membered cycle, and which may carry 1 nitrogen atom in its cycle;

Y, Z are both methylene;

X is a nitrogen atom;

A is a bisubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl having a H-atom in position α to X, wherein one substituent is selected from the group consisting of $C(O)OR^{18}$, and the other substituent is selected from substituted and non-substituted aryl and substituted and non-substituted heteroaryl which aryl and heteroaryl, if substituted, carry at least one substituent from the group consisting of C_1-C_3-alkyl, C_1-C_3-alkoxy, halogens, pseudohalogens, and CF_3;

R^{18} is selected from H and unsubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl;
aryl is phenyl, naphth-1-yl or naphth-2-yl;
heteroaryl is indolyl,
or a pharmaceutically effective salt thereof.

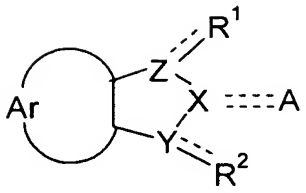
22. (NEW) The medicament according to claim 21, wherein the symbols in formula (I) have the following meanings:

R^1 and R^2 are independently from each other selected from the group consisting of: H; (=O); with at least one of R^1, R^2 being (=O), preferably both being (=O);
Ar denotes an unsubstituted mononuclear aryl group having 6 or 7 members, which aryl group is annulated to the neighbouring 5-membered cycle, and which may carry 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms in its cycle;
Y, Z denote independently from each other a nitrogen atom or a methylene group, preferably Y, Z are both methylene;
X is a nitrogen atom or a methylene group, preferably X is a nitrogen atom;
A is an at least monosubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl having a H-atom in position α to X, wherein the at least one substituent is selected from the group consisting of: $C(O)OR^{18}$, $C(S)OR^{22}$;
R^{18} is selected from H and unsubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl;
R^{22} is selected from H and unsubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl,
or a pharmaceutically effective salt thereof.

23. (NEW) A compound according to claim 22, wherein the symbols in formula (I) have the following meanings:

R^1 and R^2 are both (=O);
Ar denotes an unsubstituted mononuclear aryl group having 6 or 7 members, which aryl group is annulated to the neighbouring 5-membered cycle, and which may carry 1 nitrogen atom in its cycle;
Y, Z are both methylene;
X is a nitrogen atom;
A is a monosubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl having a H-atom in position α to X, wherein the substituent is $C(O)OR^{18}$;
R^{18} is selected from H and unsubstituted C_1-C_3-alkyl,
or a pharmaceutically effective salt thereof.

24. (NEW) A method of inhibiting DNMT in a mammal, which method comprising administrating to the mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I)

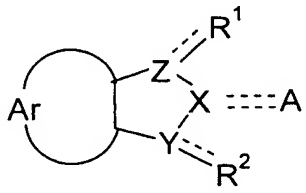


(I)

wherein the symbols Ar, A, X, Y, and Z and the substituents R^1 and R^2 have the meanings defined in claim 19, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. (NEW) The method according to claim 24, wherein the DNMT is DNMT 1.

26. (NEW) The method of inhibiting DNA methylation in a mammal, which method comprises administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein the symbols Ar, A, X, Y, and Z and the substituents R^1 and R^2 have the meanings defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

27. (NEW) The method according to claim 24, wherein a disease associated with aberrant DNA methylation is treated.

28. (NEW) The method according to claim 24, wherein a developmental disorder or a proliferative disesase is treated.

29. (NEW) The method according to claim 28, wherein the disease is Prader-Willi-Syndrome, Angelman-Syndrome (Happy Puppet Syndrome), Beckwith-Wiedemann-Syndrome, coronary restenosis, neuroblastoma, intestine carcinoma such as rectum carcinoma, colon carcinoma, familiary adenomatous polyposis carcinoma and hereditary non-

polyposis colorectal cancer, esophageal carcinoma, labial carcinoma, larynx carcinoma, hypopharynx carcinoma, tong carcinoma, salivary gland carcinoma, gastric carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, medullary thyroidea carcinoma, papillary thyroidea carcinoma, renal carcinoma, kidney parenchym carcinoma, ovarian carcinoma, cervix carcinoma, uterine corpus carcinoma, endometrium carcinoma, chorion carcinoma, pancreatic carcinoma, prostate carcinoma, testis carcinoma, breast carcinoma, urinary carcinoma, melanoma, brain tumors such as glioblastoma, astrocytoma, meningioma, medulloblastoma and peripheral neuroectodermal tumors, Hodgkin lymphoma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, Burkitt lymphoma, acute lymphatic leukemia (ALL), chronic lymphatic leukemia (CLL), acute myeolid leukemia (AML), chronic myeloid leukemia (CML), adult T-cell leukemia lymphoma, hepatocellular carcinoma, gall bladder carcinoma, bronchial carcinoma, small cell lung carcinoma, non-small cell lung carcinoma, multiple myeloma, basalioma, teratoma, retinoblastoma, choroidea melanoma, seminoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, craniopharyngeoma, osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, myosarcoma, liposarcoma, fibrosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma, prostate carcinoma, or plasmocytoma.

30. (NEW) The method according to claim 28, wherein the disease is colon carcinoma, familiary adenomatous polyposis carcinoma and hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer, prostate carcinoma, melanoma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, acute lymphatic leukemia (ALL), chronic lymphatic leukemia (CLL), acute myeolid leukemia (AML), chronic myeloid leukemia (CML), or hepatocellular carcinoma.

31. (NEW) The method according to claim 28, wherein the disease is Prader-Willi-Syndrome, Angelman-Syndrome (Happy Puppet Syndrome), Beckwith-Wiedemann-Syndrome.

32. (NEW) The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is co-administered with a compounds selected from the group consisting of (i) antimetabolites, cytarabine, fludarabine, 5-fluoro-2′-deoxyuridine, gemcitabine, hydroxyurea or methotrexate; (ii) DNA-fragmenting agents, bleomycin, (iii) DNA-crosslinking agents, chlorambucil, cisplatin, fotemustine, cyclophosphamide or nitrogen mustard; (iv) intercalating agents, adriamycin (doxorubicin) or mitoxantrone; (v) protein synthesis inhibitors, L-asparaginase, cycloheximide, puromycin or diphteria toxin; (vi) topoisomerase I poisons, camptothecin or topotecan; (vii) topoisomerase II poisons, etoposide (VP-16) or teniposide; (viii) microtubule-directed agents, colcemid, colchicine, paclitaxel (taxol), docetaxel (taxotere), vinblastine or vincristine; (ix) kinase inhibitors, flavopiridol, staurosporin, STI571 (CPG 57148B) or UCN-01 (7-hydroxystaurosporine); (x) miscellaneous investigational agents, trichostatin A, thioplatin, PS-341, phenylbutyrate, ET-18-OCH3, or farnesyl transferase inhibitors (L-739749, L-744832); polyphenols, quercetin, resveratrol, piceatannol,

epigallocatechine gallate, theaflavins, flavanols, procyanidins, betulinic acid and derivatives thereof; (xi) hormones, glucocorticoids or fenretinide; (xii) hormone antagonists, tamoxifen, finasteride or LHRH antagonists, (xiii) demethylating agents, 5-azacytidine, 5-aza-2'deoxycytidine, 5,6-dihydro-5-azacytidine, or (xiv) a combination of any of the pharmaceuticals given above.

33. (NEW) The method according to claim 24, wherein the compound is for the induction of cellular differentiation.

34. (NEW) The use according to claim 24, wherein the compound is for the treatment of infections.